## **Grace Cottage Hospital**

Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Analysis

Report Date: 8/9/2017

- 1. Describe your hospital corporate structure and how the hospital manages and works with related entities. Describe the hospital's historical mission and culture.
- 2. Income Statement--The hospital is \$556 thousand, 2.9% **under** the 2017 budget levels. This decrease is primarily related to reductions in utilization. Describe the changes in utilization the hospital is experiencing.
- 3. Rate & NPR--Grace has an overall rate/price request of 5.0%. Grace states the overall net revenue change is smaller since they only realize a small percentage of reimbursement as prices change. Explain the strategies and considerations the hospital must weigh in pricing services.
- 4. Dashboard--Bad debt and free care as a percent of gross revenues are higher than the VT median. Discuss the assumptions for budgeting higher (unfavorable) for bad debt and free care in 2018. Is it related to changes expected at the federal level?
- 5. NPR Payer--Medicaid shows unfavorable reimbursement from 2017 to 2018 budget. Describe the reimbursement assumptions.
- 6. Dashboard The hospital budget, while declining in NPR growth, still shows unfavorable productivity and a 8.7% cost per adjusted admission increase. Further, operating expenses are high compared to other peers. Discuss these measures and the strategies the hospital considers when preparing the budget.
- 7. Income Statement--Retail pharmacy (340B) of \$670,199 is in operating revenue. Describe this program and the risks operating the program.
- 8. Util. & Staff--The hospital explains changes in their reliance on agency/traveler staff which is a savings. Discuss the costs related to hiring travelers.
- 9. Income Statement--Are the 2017 projections still valid? If not, please describe material changes?

- 10. Refer to the Act 53 price and quality data schedules that were included in the presentation of FY 2018 Hospital Budget Submissions-Preliminary Review on July 27, 2017 and be prepared to address questions the Board may have concerning that information.
- 11. In the March 31 GMCB hospital guidance, the Board allowed up to 0.4% for **new** health care reform. The Board directed each hospital to provide a detailed description of each new health care reform activity, investment or initiative included within the designated 0.4%, provide any available data or evidence-based support for the activity's effectiveness or value, and identify the benchmark or measure by which the hospital can determine that the activity reduces costs, improves health, and/or increases Vermonters' access to health care. With this in mind, please describe how you are investing for new health care reform activities in the four approved areas:
  - Support for Accountable Care Organization (ACO) infrastructure or ACO programs;
  - Support of community infrastructure related to ACO programs;
  - Building capacity for, or implementation of, population health improvement activities identified in the Community Health Needs Assessment, with a preference for those activities connected with the population health measures outlined in the All-payer Model Agreement;
  - Support for programs designed to achieve the population health measures outlined in the All-payer Model Agreement.
- 12. Please identify which ACO(s) you will have a contractual relationship with in 2018. If your hospital plans (or already is) in a risk-bearing contract with OneCare, please explain the effect of the risk on your financial statements. Please explain specific strategies your hospital is developing to move toward population-based payment reform. Finally, what tools does your hospital employ to ensure appropriate, cost effective, quality care when working with providers outside the CHAC or OneCare network?

Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Analysis			Grace	Cottage Hospital				
INCOME STATEMENT	FY2015A	FY2016A	FY2017B	FY2017P	FY2018B	2017B - 2018B \$ Chg	2017B - 2018B % Chg	3YR CAGR (FY2015A- FY2018B)
Revenues								
Gross Patient Care Revenue	22,650,537	25,833,339	28,407,778	25,638,473	27,607,149	(800,629)		
Disproportionate Share Payments	0	0	0	0	0	-	,	
Bad Debt	(525,606)	(406,558)	(476,230)	(683,029)	(748,260)	, , ,		
Free Care	(196,472)	(126,612)	(194,628)	(91,812)	(101,466)	93,162		
Deductions from Revenue	(5,889,693)	(8,058,460)	(8,531,417)	(7,529,268)	(8,108,349)	423,068		
Graduate Medical Education	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Net Patient Care Revenue	16,038,766	17,241,709	19,205,503	17,334,364	18,649,074	(556,429)	-2.9%	5.2%
Other Operating Revenue	920,058	871,069	1,186,377	1,148,549	1,247,133	60,756	5.1%	
Total Operating Revenue	16,958,824	18,112,778	20,391,880	18,482,913	19,896,207	(495,673)	-2.4%	
Expenses								
Salaries Non MD	7,907,721	8,455,100	8,932,279	8,605,242	9,377,560	445,281	5.0%	
Fringe Benefits Non MD	2,326,337	2,644,288	3,044,319	2,696,776	3,084,330	40,011	1.3%	
Physician Fees Salaries Contracts								
& Fringes	2,385,546	2,704,137	2,697,664	2,638,025	2,622,930	(74,734)	-2.8%	
Health Care Provider Tax	536,205	621,491	618,577	654,065	659,052	40,475		
Depreciation Amortization	1,134,712	705,748	656,184	607,252	644,540	(11,644)	-1.8%	
Interest - Long Term	139,854	150,863	143,906	126,460	125,817	(18,089)	-12.6%	
Other Operating Expense	4,184,039	4,278,775	4,498,373	4,380,038	3,972,003			
Total Operating Expense	18,614,414	19,560,402	20,591,302	19,707,858	20,486,232			3.2%
Net Operating Income (Loss)	(1,655,590)	(1,447,624)	(199,422)	(1,224,945)	(590,025)		195.9%	
Non-Operating Revenue	943,756	1,052,582	743,534	972,006	737,258	(6,276)	-0.8%	
Excess (Deficit) of Rev Over Exp	(711,834)	(395,042)	544,112	(252,939)	147,233		-72.9%	
					_			
Operating Margin%	-9.8%	-8.0%	-1.0%	-6.6%	-3.0%			
Total Margin %	-4.0%	-2.1%	2.6%	-1.3%	0.7%			
Cost per Adjusted Admission	7,514	7,367	7,552	8,084	8,212	659	8.7%	

The NPR **decrease** of \$556 thousand is 2.9% **under** the 2017 budget. This is about \$1.1 million **under** the 3% cap target. Much of the decrease is due to lower utilization in outpatient and provider practices as explained in their narrative.

The hospital's expenses are decreasing 0.5%, primarily due to the decrease in variable costs associated with utilization and cost savings from their reduction of travelers. The cost per adjusted admission will increase 8.7%.

The operating surplus is supported by 340 B pharmacy revenues of over \$670,000. Non operating revenues are the hospital's community contributions of \$737,000 and will help to provide a total surplus of 0.7% on net revenues.

Fiscal Year	2018 Budget Analysis	Grace	e Cottage Hospit	al				
NET DAVED	DEVENUE CHANGE DAVEDS				2017B - 2018B	2017B - 2018B	%	Change due to Non-
NET PAYER	REVENUE CHANGE - PAYERS	FY2017B	FY2017P	FY2018B	\$ Chg	Chg	Change due to Rate	Rate Items
All Payers	Inpatient Care Revenue, Outpatient Care Revenu	\$28,407,778	\$25,638,473	\$27,607,149	(\$800,629)	-2.8%		
	Allowances, Discounts, Allowances, Discounts	(\$8,531,417)	(\$7,529,268)	(\$8,108,349)	\$423,068	-5.0%		
	Bad Debt, Bad Debt	(\$476,230)	(\$683,029)	(\$748,260)	(\$272,030)	57.1%		
	Free Care, Free Care	(\$194,628)	(\$91,812)	(\$101,466)	\$93,162	-47.9%		
	Graduate Medical Education Payments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!		
	Disproportionate Share Payments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!		
	Net Payer Revenue	\$19,205,503	\$17,334,364	\$18,649,074	(\$556,429)	-2.9%	\$355,666	(\$912,095)
Commercial	Gross Revenue	\$8,515,247	\$7,879,025	\$8,552,351	\$37,104	0.4%		
	Contractual Allowances	(\$2,558,442)	(\$2,508,964)	(\$2,691,681)	(\$133,239)	5.2%		
	Bad Debt	(\$476,230)	(\$683,029)	(\$748,260)	(\$272,030)	57.1%		
	Free Care	(\$194,628)	(\$91,812)	(\$101,466)	\$93,162	-47.9%		
	Graduate Medical Education Payments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!		
	Net Payer Revenue	\$5,285,947	\$4,595,220	\$5,010,944	(\$275,003)	-5.2%	\$232,587	(\$507,590)
Medicaid	Gross Revenue	\$5,009,268	\$3,745,814	\$4,045,060	(\$964,208)	-19.2%		
	Contractual Allowances	(\$2,940,979)	(\$2,303,349)	(\$2,480,757)	\$460,222	-15.6%		
	Bad Debt	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!		
	Free Care	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!		
	Graduate Medical Education Payments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!		
	Net Payer Revenue	\$2,068,289	\$1,442,465	\$1,564,303	(\$503,986)	-24.4%	\$0	(\$503,986)
Medicare	Gross Revenue	\$14,883,263	\$14,013,634	\$15,009,738	\$126,475	0.8%		
	Contractual Allowances	(\$3,031,996)	(\$2,716,955)	(\$2,935,911)	\$96,085	-3.2%		
	Bad Debt	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!		
	Free Care	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!		
	Graduate Medical Education Payments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!		
	Net Payer Revenue	\$11,851,267	\$11,296,679	\$12,073,827	\$222,560	1.9%	\$123,079	\$99,481
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Disproportio	onate Share Payments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!		
	Net Payer Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$0	(\$0)
	Net to Gross Commercial (no dsh)	62.1%	58.3%	58.6%				
	Net to Gross Medicaid (no dsh)	41.3%	38.5%	38.7%				
	Net to Gross Medicare (no dsh)	79.6%	80.6%	80.4%				
	Net to Gross All (no dsh)	67.6%	67.6%	67.6%				

The NPR decrease is primarily due to decreases in Commercial and Medicaid. The decrease in utilization is in both Medicaid and commercial payers. Commercial and Medicaid also show much less favorable reimbursement. Medicare shows more favorable reimbursement than was budgeted in 2017. The hospital needs to explain the changes in utilization.

The hospital does not receive disproportionate share.

## **Grace Cottage Hospital**

## RATE AND NET PATIENT REVENUE INCREASE

Rate is the average change in price for services provided.

	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	ı	FY 2018
Weighted Average Approved Rate (all hospitals)	5.16%	6.82%	4.37%	1.75%		
Weighted Average Submitted Rate (all hospitals)	5.45%	6.82%	4.40%	2.17%		2.38%
Grace Cottage Hospital Approved Rate	6.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%		
Grace Cottage Hospital Submitted Rate	6.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%		5.00%
Hospital Inpatient Gross Revenue	ĺ			[		5.3%
Hospital Outpatient Gross Revenue						5.3%
Physician Outpatient Gross Revenue						4.0%
Chronic/SNF Gross Revenue						0.0%
Swing Gross Revenue						5.3%
Net Patient Revenue Change Due to Rate Request						
•				Commercial	\$	232,587
				Medicaid	\$	-
				Medicare	\$	123,079
			Di	sproportionate Share	\$	0
			Total Change	Due to Rate Request	\$	355,666
Value of 1% Rate					\$	71,133

Grace has a rate/price request of 5.0%. The rate is the same as seen in the last few years, 5.25% will be for hospital charges and 4.0% will be to increase physician practice charges.

The 5% will result in increased NPR of about \$356 thousand.

For Grace, every 1% increase in rate is worth about \$71 thousand in net patient revenue.

Fiscal Year 2018 Budget A						Grace C	ottage Hos	pital					
<b>BUDGET TO BUDGET VARIAN</b>	ICES EXPLAINED	1											
Income Statement	FY2018B	2017B - 2018B \$ Chg	2017B - 2018B % Chg	Rate	Rate Effect of Act 16 Decis	Utilization	Util/Reimb/ Payer Mix	Bad Debt/Free Care Changes	Physician Trans/Acq	DSH Changes	Health Reform	Other	Explained Variance Total
Revenues			<u> </u>										
<b>Gross Patient Care Revenue</b>	27,607,149	(800,629)	-2.8%										
Disproportionate Share Payments	0	0											
Bad Debt	(748,260)	(272,030)											
Free Care Deductions from Revenue	(101,466)	93,162 423,068											
Graduate Medical Education	(8,108,349) 0	423,068											
Net Patient Care Revenue - A	18,649,074	(556,429)	-2.9%	355,666		(733,227)		(178,868)					(556,429)
Other Operating Revenue	1,247,133	60,756											
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	19,896,207	(495,673)											
Salaries Non MD	9,377,560	445,281											
Fringe Benefits Non MD	3,084,330	· ·											
Fringe Benefits MD Physician Fees Salaries	477,745	33,861											
Contracts & Fringes	2,145,185	(108,595)											
Health Care Provider Tax	659,052	40,475											
Depreciation Amortization	644,540	(11,644)											
Interest - Long Term	125,817	(18,089)											
Other Operating Expense	3,972,003	(526,370)											
Operating Expense	20,486,232												-
Net Operating Income (Loss)	(590,025)	(390,603)	195.9%										
Non-Operating Revenue	737,258	(6,276)											
Over Expense	147,233	(396,879)											

Utilization decreases explain most of the change in the lower NPR. However, the slightly higher unit cost increase and unfavorable productivity measures suggest that costs are increasing for other than variable costs related to utilization or that the hospitals costs are largely fixed. Some of this is explained by the provider tax increase and the compensation expenses.

Unfavorable changes related to bad debt and free care are also affecting their NPR.

The hospital has not budgeted any new Health Reform investments; see the narrative.

Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Analysis	Grace Cottage Ho	spital					ermont Pee			2017 Almanac of Hospital Fina and Operating Indicators (Op FY2015							
DASHBOARD	FY2015A	FY2016A	FY2017B	FY2017P	FY2018B	FY2018B Vermont 25th	FY2018B Vermont 50th	FY2018B Vermont 75th	Northeast Region	Northe ast CAH	25-99 beds	100- 199 beds	Teaching Hospitals				
Net Patient Care Revenue	16,038,766	17,241,709	19,205,503	17,334,364	18,649,074												
Budget to Budget NPR Growth Rate					-2.9%	1.8%	3.5%	4.5%									
Three Year NPR CAGR (FY14A - FY17B)					7.3%	2.2%	3.5%	4.1%									
Operating Expense	18,614,414	19,560,402	20,591,302	19,707,858	20,486,232												
Budget to Budget Oper Exp Growth Rate					-1%	1.8%	4.2%	4.6%									
Three Year OE CAGR (FY14A - FY17B)					5.6%	3.0%	3.8%	5.2%				1					
Revenue																	
Operating Margin %	-9.8%	-8.0%	-1.0%	-6.6%	-3.0%	0.7%	1.7%	2.2%	1.4%		1.4%	3.9%	3.3%				
Total Margin %	-4.0%	-2.1%	2.6%	-1.3%	0.7%	1.8%	2.8%	3.7%	1.7%	-0.6%	1.7%	6.2%	4.2%				
Bad Debt %	2.3%	1.6%	1.7%	2.7%	2.7%	1.0%	1.6%	2.5%	1.6%	5.0%	1.6%	6.2%	3.7%				
Free Care %	0.9%	0.5%	0.7%	0.4%	0.4%	0.6%	0.8%	1.1%	0.4%		0.4%						
Cost																	
Cost per Adjusted Admission	7,514	7,367	7,552	8,084	8,212	8,988	10,994	12,687	5,272		5,272	7,604	7,822				
Overhead Expense w/ fringe, as a % of Total Operating Exp	34.3%	32.2%	33.2%	32.0%	32.8%	22.2%	26.8%	32.0%									
Productivity & Utilization	3 11375	32.270	33.2,0	52.670	02.070	22.270	20.070	52.070									
Acute Admissions	130	131	142	120	120	1,363	1,764	3,199									
Adjusted Admissions		2,655	2,727	2,438	2,495	· · ·	8,282	15,598									
FTEs Per Adjusted Occupied Bed		6.8	6.4	6.5	6.7	· · ·	5.9	6.7			2.9	3.2	3.2				
FTEs per 100 Adj Discharges		5.1	5.2	5.6	5.7		5.9				2.5	5.2	5.2				
Cash																	
Days Cash on Hand	76.1	78.2	76.7	80.9	75.8	90.4	136.6	192.3	24.2	114.9	24.2		116.3				
Capital	7012	70.2	70.7	00.5		30.1	150.0	132.0		11.13			110.5				
Age of Plant	10.4	17.8	20.1	21.6	21.4	12.1	12.7	14.5	2.4	12.4	2.4	12.4	11.2				
Long Term Debt to Capitalization		25.8%	27.0%	34.1%	29.9%	20%	24%	29%			5.5%	12.7	35.3%				
Capital Expenditures to Depreciation		75.7%	135.3%	126.0%	166.6%	104%	123%	160%			41%		33.370				
Rates Approved	55.570	73.770	133.370	123.070	200.070	10 170	123/0	10070	7170		11/0						
Approved Rate per Latest Order	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	0.0%												
CAGR = Compounded Annual Growth Rate																	

UTILIZATION & STAFFING	FY2015/	FY2	2016A	FY2017B	FY2017P	FY2018B	2017B-
UTILIZATION							
Adjusted Admissions	2,4	77	2,655	2,727	2,438	2,495	-8.5%
Acute Admissions	1:	80	131	142	120	120	-15.5%
Acute Average Length Of Stay	3	.1	2.7	2.9	3.1	3.1	6.9%
All Operating Room Procedure		0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Tests	56,9	15	58,289	63,123	52,596	54,940	-13.0%
Emergency Room Visits	2,7	86	2,892	3,006	2,712	2,712	-9.8%
Cat Scan, Radiology - Diagnostic	4,0	L <b>2</b>	4,144	4,468	3,971	4,332	-3.0%
Exams		0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Physician Office Visits	17,9	18	19,397	22,477	19,717	20,691	-7.9%
Non-MD FTEs	1:	31	136	140	136	142	2
Travelers, Travelers MD		4	4	3	6	0	-3
Residents & Fellows		0	0	0	0	0	0
MLPs		0	0	0	0	0	0
Physician FTEs		9	10	10	9	9	-1
	1	14	149	153	151	151	-2
Salary per FTE Non-MD	\$ 60,14	8 \$	62,147	\$ 63,589	\$ 63,181	\$ 65,997	3.8%
Salary & Benefits per FTE - Non-MD	\$ 77,84	3 \$	81,583	\$ 85,261	\$ 82,981	\$ 87,704	2.9%
FTEs Per Adjusted Occupied Bed	6	.3	6.8	6.4	6.5	6.7	3.4%
FTEs per 100 Adj Discharges	5	.3	5.1	5.2	5.6	5.7	10.6%
Comparative Benchmarks							
Vermont System Averages							
Salary & Benefits per FTE - Non-MD	\$ 80,70	4 \$	81,921	\$ 83,669	\$ 85,414	\$ 85,010	1.6%
FTEs Per Adjusted Occupied Bed	5	.7	5.7	6.1	5.9	6.0	-1.4%
FTEs per 100 Adj Discharges	7	.2	7.0	7.5	7.5	7.7	2.3%

Overall utilization as measured by adjusted admissions shows a large reduction but little change over current year projections.

Acute admissions, ER and physician visits are decreasing, presumably related to reduced physician practice volumes (see narrative). More discussion and understanding is needed about the patients and their utilization.

The productivity measures and cost per unit are moving unfavorably. However, compared to Vermont's Critical Access hospitals, the hospital is below the median (favorable).

The hospital is reducing its reliance on travelers as stated in their narrative. Grace should explain.

Salary and fringe costs are budgeted one of the highest in the state, related to their small size.

The system Salary per FTE is \$66,001 and is 3.3% higher than

Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Analysis	Grace Cottage Hospital														
BALANCE SHEET		FY2015A		FY2016A		FY2017B		FY2017P		FY2018B					
			_												
Cash & Investments	\$	195,899	\$	237,043	\$	261,660	\$	352,815	\$	359,871					
Other Curent Assets		4,165,169		4,054,996		3,958,937		3,635,231		3,541,382					
Current Assets		4,361,068		4,292,039		4,220,597		3,988,046		3,901,253					
<b>Board Designated Assets</b>		3,537,806		3,887,683		4,010,101		3,959,656		3,833,245					
Net, Property, Plant And Equipment		3,658,528		3,453,925		3,756,642		3,140,217		3,569,593					
Other Long-Term Assets		-		-		-		-		-					
Assets	\$	11,557,402	\$	11,633,647	\$	11,987,340	\$	11,087,919	\$	11,304,091					
Current Liabilities	\$	3,352,552	\$	4,397,878	\$	3,139,831	\$	3,239,657	\$	3,661,354					
Long Term Liabilities	•	2,282,126	•	1,719,623	•	2,285,054	•	2,585,055	•	2,232,297					
Other Noncurrent Liabilities		-,,		-		-,,		-		-,,					
Fund Balance		5,922,724		5,516,146		6,562,455		5,263,207		5,410,440					
Liabilities and Equities	\$	11,557,402	\$	11,633,647	\$	11,987,340	\$	11,087,919	\$	11,304,091					
Grace Cottage Hospital															
Days Cash on Hand		76.1		78.2		76.7		80.9		75.8					
Long Term Debt to Capitalization		29.0%		25.8%		27.0%		34.1%		29.9%					
Debt Service Coverage Ratio		(1.3)		(1.2)		0.8		(0.6)		0.2					
Comparative Benchmarks															
Vermont System Averages															
Days Cash on Hand		178.53		183.26		165.81		186.20		166.60					
Long Term Debt to Capitalization		27.6%		30.5%		29.6%		31.1%		29.5%					
Debt Service Coverage Ratio		(1.3)		(1.2)		0.8		(0.6)		0.2					
U.S. Benchmarks	_	(1.5)		(1.2)		0.0		(0.0)		0.2					
Northeast CAH															
Days Cash on Hand-Peers		114.90													
<b>Long Term Debt to Capitalization-Peers</b>		22.8%													
<b>Debt Service Coverage Ratio-Peers</b>		1.60													

Overall cash on hand is steady and is lower than the state median.

Compared to Vermont's Critical Access hospitals, Grace's cash on hand is the lowest.

Board designated assets are comparable to recent years. Long term debt is also steady and compares favorable with the VT peers. The fund balance shows a decrease from 2017 budgeted levels.

Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Analysis	Grace Cottage Hospital																		
CAPITAL BUDGET	2014A			FY2015A		FY2016A		FY2017B		FY2017P		FY2018B		<b>2019 Plan</b>		2020 Plan		2021 Plan	
Non-Certificate of Need Capital Plans Total	\$	173,772		947,065	\$	534,575		887,520	•	765,167	\$	1,073,916	\$	934,180	\$	2,986,849	\$	1,264,932	
Certificate of Need Capital Plans	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	Ş	-	\$	-	Ş	-	\$	-	
Total Capital Purchases	\$	173,772	\$	947,065	\$	534,575	\$	887,520	\$	765,167	\$	1,073,916	\$	934,180	\$	2,986,849	\$	1,264,932	
Grace Cottage Hospital																			
Age of Plant		7.7		10.4		17.8		20.1		21.6		21.4							
Capital Expenditures to Depreciation		12.5%		83.5%		75.7%		135.3%		126.0%		166.6%							
Capital Cost % of Total Expense		8.3%		6.8%		4.4%		3.9%		3.7%		3.8%							
Comparative Benchmarks																			
Vermont System Averages																			
Age of Plant		10.2		11.4		11.8		12.3		12.4		12.9							
Capital Expenditures to Depreciation		80.6%		97.1%		101.7%		128.2%		135.7%		115.3%							
Capital Cost % of Total Expense		5.9%		5.4%		5.2%		5.3%		5.1%		5.3%							
U.S. Benchmarks																			
Northeast Critical Access Hospital																			
Age of Plant-Peers		11.3		12.4															
Capital Expenditures to Depreciation-Peers																			

The overall capital budget of \$1.1 million is higher than the spending in recent years as the age of plant has been trending higher and is higher (unfavorable) than the Vermont median. Capital cost as % of the budget reflect favorable peer comparison values.

5.8%

4.5%

Capital Cost % of Total Expense-Peers

As described in the narrative, there are no single investments over \$500 thousand for 2018 but they are looking to add a population health module to their EHR system. The narrative describes that even though there are no CONs planned for the period 2019-21 they have future projects in their long-term plans for ER and physician practice upgrades.